

Message Text

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SUBJ: STATUS AND FUNCTIONS KIEV ADVANCE PARTY

1. SUMMARY - AT MEETING WITH UKRAINE MFA REPRESENTATIVES AUGUST 4, OSTENSIBLY TO REVIEW LOCAL TRAVEL PROCEDURES, DISCUSSION QUICKLY SHIFTED TO STATUS AND FUNCTIONS PROSPECTIVE ADVANCE PARTY. SOVIETS TOOK INITIAL POSITION THAT US ADVANCE PARTY FUNCTIONS WOULD BE STRICTLY LIMITED TO QUESTIONS RELATING TO CONSTRUCTIONS AND RE-MODELING OF CONSULATE BUILDINGS. IN THIS REGARD, SOVIETS CRITICIZED PORTER'S CALLS ON UKRAINE SOCIETY AND KIEV INTOURIST JULY 3. AT SAME TIME, THEY ASSURED THAT SOVIET CONSUL GENERAL DESIGNATE IN NEW YORK CITY WAS LIMITED TO CONSTRUCTION RELATED ACTIVITIES THERE. PORTER POINTED OUT HIS PRESENT STATUS AS MEMBER EMBASSY WAS CLEAR AND THAT HE UNDERSTOOD ADVANCE PARTY MEMBERS WOULD CONTINUE IN THAT STATUS. HE FURTHER STATED THAT STRICT LIMITATION ON FUNCTIONS WOULD NOT SEEM TO BE APPROPRIATE, GIVEN THE PRESENCE AND NEEDS OF TOURISTS AND DELEGATIONS, ALTHOUGH IT WAS CLEAR THAT CENTRAL CONCERN OF ADVANCE PARTIES WOULD BE PREPARATION OF BUILDINGS. END SUMMARY

2. TRAVEL - FOLLOWING GENERAL PRESENTATION BY MFA PROTOCOL CHIEF TSYBA AND ASSISTANT CHECHEL OF SOVIET TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS AS APPLIED TO US CONGEN OFFICIALS, TSYBA SEEMED UNSURE OF APPLICATION TRAVEL REGULATIONS TO ADVANCE PARTY. PORTER NOTED THAT AS MEMBERS OF US EMBASSY STAFF IN MOSCOW, ADVANCE PARTY MEMBERS WOULD APPROPRIATELY FALL UNDER TRAVEL PROGRAMS. OVER-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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RULING CHECHEL, TSYBA AGREED AND FURTHER PROPOSED THAT ADVANCE GROUP'S TRAVEL NOTES MIGHT BE DIRECTED TO UKRAINE (UKR) MFA RATHER THAN THROUGH EMBASSY AND UNION MFA.

3. CONTACTS - TSYBA DESCRIBED REPUBLIC PROTOCOL ROUTINE FOR CONGEN CALLS AS (A) COVERING ARRANGEMENTS FOR ALL FIRST TIME CALLS ON UKR OFFICIALS BY CONGEN, (B) ARRANGEMENTS FOR ALL FIRST TIME CALLS BY TRADE, CULTURAL OR OTHER CG SPECIALISTS OR OFFICIALS IN THEIR AREA OF INTEREST, AND (C) ALL CALL ON SENIOR REPUBLICAN OFFICIALS. SOVIETS THEN CITED RECENT PORTER CALLS ON DEPUTY CHIEFS OF UKRAINA SOCIETY AND KIEV INTOURIST AS BOTH INCONSISTENT WITH PROTOCOL PRACTICE AND PORTER'S STATUS.

4. STATUS - SOVIETS TOOK POSITION THAT ADVANCE PARTY WOULD APPROPRIATELY BE CONCERNED ONLY WITH CONSTRUCTION AND REMODELING OF CONSULATE BUILDINGS. CHECHEL SAID SINITSIN OF UNION MFA'S USA DIVISION HAD INFORMED HIM THAT MISHKOV IN NEW YORK CITY WAS LIMITED THUS IN HIS OPERATION AND US ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE RECIPROCAL IN KIEV. PORTER TOOK POSITION THAT ADVANCE PARTIES IN KIEV AND NEW YORK WOULD BOTH REQUIRE FLEXIBILITY IN ALSO MEETING PROBLEMS OF TOURISTS AND ASSISTING DELEGATIONS. PORTER GAVE PERSONAL OPINION THAT MISHKOV WAS ALREADY ASSISTING DELEGATIONS THERE.

5. PORTER ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT ADVANCE PARTIES ON BOTH SIDES, AS MEMBERS OF EMBASSIES' STAFF, COULD HARDLY AVOID ROUTINE DUTIES, ALTHOUGH MAIN ASSIGNMENT WAS INDEED THAT OF OVERSEEING CONSTRUCTION AND GENERALLY HANDLING ARRANGEMENTS LEADING TOWARD OPENING OF CONSULATES. HE ALSO NOTED THAT OF COURSE SUCH FORMAL FUNCTIONS AS ISSUANCE PASSPORTS AND VISAS COULD ONLY BEGIN AFTER FORMAL OPENINGS. CHECHEL, UNDAUNTED, NOTED THAT EMBASSY LETTER OF JUNE 23 ACCORDING PORTER AUTHORITY IN PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS HAD MENTIONED NO OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES. PORTER REJOINED THAT HE WAS FIRST SECRETARY AND CONSUL OF EMBASSY. TSYBA THEN PROPOSED JOINT CONSIDERATION OF SPECIFIC DEFINITION OF ADVANCE PARTY RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACTIVITIES. HE SAID HE FELT MOSCOW OFFICIALS SHOULD WORK THIS OUT WITH EMBASSY AS LOCALLY THEY HAD LITTLE KNOWLEDGE OF SITUATION IN NEW YORK OR THE LENINGRAD-SAN FRANCISCO PRECEDENTS.

6. COMMENT - SPECIFYING DUTIES OF ADVANCE PARTIES MAY BE MORE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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USEFUL IN KIEV THAN IN NEW YORK. KIEV AUTHORITIES CLEARLY HAVE THE MEANS AND THE INCLINATION TO CLAMP DOWN ON CONTACTS OUTSIDE CONSTRUCTION RESPONSIBILITIES. CONTACT WITH AMERICANS WOULD NOT BE OBSTRUCTED, BUT SOVIETS MIGHT EVEN OBJECT TO ADVANCE PARTY MEMBERS ACCOMPANYING VISITORS OR DELEGATIONS ON CALLS TO LOCAL OFFICIALS. ALTHOUGH OUR RECOLLECTION IS THAT LENINGRAD PRACTICE WAS MORE INFORMAL, DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONSIDER FOLLOWING AS BASIS FOR UNDERSTANDING ON ACTIVITIES OF ADVANCE PARTIES:

A. THE ADVANCE PARTIES WILL BE PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH ACTIVITIES RELATING TO CONSTRUCTION, REMODELING AND GENERALLY

PREPARING WORKING AND LIVING QUARTERS FOR THE OPENING OF THE
CONSULATES GENERAL.

B. THE ADVANCE PARTIES MAY, AS TIME AND OTHER DUTEIS
PERMIT, OFFER ASSISTANCE TO TOURISTS OR VISITING DELEGATIONS,
TO INCLUDE CONTACT WITH THE LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS RECEIVING THEM.
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